

Washington.

News of the National Capitol Briefly Noted in Passing for the Reader.

The United States has ninety-two members. Of these, the terms of thirty will expire March 4, 1911. These are the thirty:

Aldrich	..... Rhode Island
Reveridge	..... Indiana
Bulkeley	..... Connecticut
Burkett	..... Nebraska
Burrows	..... Michigan
Carter	..... Montana
Clapp	..... Minnesota
Clark	..... Wyoming
Culbertson	..... Texas
Daniel	..... Virginia
Stepew	..... New York
Dick	..... Ohio
Du Pont	..... Delaware
Flint	..... California
Frazier	..... Tennessee
Male	..... Maine
Keane	..... New Jersey
La Follette	..... Wisconsin
Lodge	..... Massachusetts
McCumber	..... North Dakota
Money	..... Mississippi
Nixon	..... Nevada
Oliver	..... Pennsylvania
Page	..... Vermont
Piles	..... Washington
Payner	..... Maryland
Scott	..... West Virginia
Sutherland	..... Utah
Taliaferro	..... Florida
Warner	..... Missouri

All these Senators (except Money of Mississippi, whose successor, John Sharpe Williams, has already been elected) will be reelected, or their successors chosen, by their various State Legislatures, during the next twelve months. In a few cases the man has already been named by party caucus. But in the great majority of cases the new Senators will be chosen by Legislatures which meet next winter. The members of these Legislatures will be elected, in most cases, next November; they will be nominated at party primaries during the coming summer.

66,360 Violations of Law.

Black Hand cases, the most notable of which developed in Ohio, occupied a considerable part of the time of postoffice inspectors during the last year. Theodore Ingalls, acting chief inspector, says that 66,360 cases are outstanding in the field under investigation, and 13,091 under consideration in the department. Robbery of postoffices, looting of mail boxes and depredations on the mails generally and frauds conducted through the use of the mails increased during the last year, the total being \$131,142. During the year 1,969 postoffices were robbed, compared with 1,821 the previous year, while 2,398 arrests were made during 1909 as compared with 2,548 the previous year. Of the number arrested 107 were postmasters, 45 assistant postmasters, 80 clerks in postoffices, 24 railway postal clerks, 45 city letter carriers, 43 rural letter carriers, 22 mail carriers, and there was one other employee; 416 were postoffice burglars and 1,615 were persons not connected with the postal service.

Indian Bill Decreased.

The Indian appropriation bill carries an expenditure for the maintenance of the Indian Service in the fiscal year beginning July 1 next, of \$8,667,122, as compared with \$11,343,982 in the last bill. The bill provides, among other things, that "hereafter the Secretary of the Interior shall make an annual accounting with each tribe of Indians, of all money appropriated, required to be reimbursed to the United States." It abolishes the Indian warehouses at New York, Boston, Chicago, and certain other cities. A material increase is made in the appropriation for the suppression of the liquor traffic among the Indians.

Working For the Waccamaw.

Representative Ellerbe of South Carolina, is making a hard fight for the Waccamaw river. He says that if he succeeds in committing the river and harbors committee to a policy of improvement it would mean that in the near future there would be nine feet instead of six from Bucksville to Conway.

Old Nick Loses Out.

The case of the Old Nick Williams Distilling Company, of Yadkin county, North Carolina vs. the United States, involving a charge against the company of defrauding the government out of a tax on spirits, has been decided by the Supreme Court of the United States unfavorable to the company.

\$30,000,000 For Irrigation Plans.

The Senate Committee on Irrigation has reported a bill providing for \$30,000,000 bond issue to complete irrigation projects. This is in line with Taft's recommendations.

Dances at Southern Ball.

The annual ball of the Southern Relief Society, an organization of women for the purpose of taking care of needy families of men who served in the Confederate army, was given last week in the ballrooms of the New Willard, with President Taft as the guest of honor. This is the first time since Arthur's administration for a chief executive to drop into the whirl of terpsichore. Mrs. Pearce Horne was the honored partner.

March 4th will remain the day for the inauguration of the President, as heretofore. Efforts to change the date of such inaugurations from March 4th to the last Thursday in April have failed. Now an effort is being made to fix the second Tuesday in January as the date, but it is said that the April plan having failed, the January plan will fail also. Thousands of people who have attended these inaugurations from time to time want the date changed, when they will not shiver and shake on Washington's snow-covered streets. They are not interested so much in the "constitutional" questions involved as they are in having Congress tell them frankly why it is necessary to veil the matter in mystery and uncertainty. There is absolutely no doubt that the requisite number of States will ratify an amendment to the Constitution to change the date of the inauguration if Congress will pass the bill.

Report on Waterways.

In the report of the National Waterways Commission, submitted to Congress last Tuesday, based upon a comprehensive investigation in this country and abroad, a general plan of conservation of water power is one of the principal recommendations. The commission holds that the government has no right or interest in navigable waters which would authorize a collection of tolls. The commission cannot see its way clear to recommend a general power to fix minimum rates, but a majority of the commission would recommend empowering the Interstate Commerce Commission to prescribe minimum railroad rates whenever in its opinion the object of a railroad in reduced rates is to destroy waterway competition.

Discussed Many Subjects.

The National Board of Trade met here last Monday for a two days' session. Among the subjects discussed were the American merchant marine, the diplomatic and consular service, forestry and reclamation, the interstate commerce law, national banking and currency, postal affairs, river and harbor improvements, the tariff, reciprocity, the Sherman anti-trust law, and the immigration problem. Uniform pure food laws, for the several States and a proposal to create a department of public works.

The board of trade is the outgrowth of a commercial convention which met in Detroit, Mich., in 1865 and now represents all sections of the United States. This is the 40th convention.

Wants Report of Slaughtered Animals

Crumpacker bill, providing for enumerating at the coming census of all cattle, calves, sheep, lambs, hogs, goats and kids slaughtered, has been ordered favorably reported by the house census committee.

In view of the increased cost of living and the high prices of hides, said Chairman Crumpacker, "in reporting the bill, it is important to know relatively the number of animals slaughtered and the hides produced in the large packing establishments and the number of animals slaughtered and hides produced on the farm and in the small butchering establishments. It is also important to know whether there is a shortage of food animals or whether the price of the products may be affected by the percentage that is slaughtered and controlled by the large establishments. This census can be taken by special agents at comparatively small cost."

Carolinian Seeks Judgeship.

Rion McKissick, of South Carolina, but now doing work on a Richmond paper, is an applicant for one of the Judgeships on the Bench of the new Customs Court of Appeal. His application has been filed with the department of justice by Representative Aiken, who has took the matter up with Attorney General Wickersham.

May Extend Date.

Congress may be asked to extend the date for the corporation tax provisions of the Payne tariff law becoming operative, until the test case on that act now before the supreme court is sufficiently near decision by March 1, the date when the law becomes active.

Hearings on Future Gambling.

The House Committee on Agriculture will begin hearings on the subject of future gambling in cotton futures and other options, beginning next Wednesday. The hearings are expected to last ten days or more.

For the Granby Dam.

If the recommendation of the army engineers is accepted by the board of review which now has the matter under consideration, congress may be expected to appropriate \$55,982 for the raising of the Granby dam on the Congaree at Columbia, S. C.

The President issued proclamations declaring Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Russia, Turkey and Switzerland entitled to the minimum tariff rates.

MEAT BOYCOTT IS FELT.

Wholesale Meat Sale Off 20 Per Cent At Atlanta—Farmers Holding Meetings.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—"The sale of trust handled meat by the wholesale has fallen off fully 20 per cent since the Atlanta boycott was put into effect the first of the past week," said T. R. Sawell, the well-known Atlanta wholesale and retail meat dealer Saturday night while discussing the present meat situation.

Beginning Tuesday of this week, 40 labor organizations of Richmond, Va., began a 60-day fight against the trust by agreeing to eat no meat, going it on vegetarian diet.

Other towns and sites in the South as well as the north and middle west are joining the ranks of "We Do Not Eat Meat."

Reports from New York say the entire city is placarded with eat no meat signs, and butchers are joining the crusade.

Meat prices were down in local retail markets.

Boycott Hits Dealers, Say the Master Butchers.

New York, Special.—The United Master Butchers of America, in a statement given out here, decry the meat boycott as "misdirected energy which is defeating its own end." The statement urges the removal of tariff on all live stock. It says in part:

"It is not the packer who received the most severe blow from the boycott, but the retail butcher, the man who must earn his living and support his family through the sale of meat. Why not go to the root of the evil: why not seek the cause of the disease?"

"High meat prices are due mostly to the great scarcity of live cattle. The national government exacts a tariff on live stock, shutting out outside sources of supply. Therefore we demand, in the name of the great American consuming public, that the federal government take immediate steps to have the duty on all live stock removed."

Farmers Withhold Produce From Sale.

Nevada, Mo., Special.—Three hundred farmers at a meeting here adopted a resolution agreeing not to sell any cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs or butter for 60 days, beginning February 1. Their action is a protest against the statements of the large packing house interests that the farmer and stockman is responsible for the high price of foodstuffs.

A letter will be sent to all the farmers' associations in the United States requesting them to withhold their products from the market.

Retail Prices of Meat Show Decline in Boston.

Boston, Special.—The agitation against the high cost of food has begun to show results in Boston, a general decline in the prices of meat being shown in the markets. Retail prices fell from 2 to 4 cents a pound on the higher grades of meat.

Prices Continue to Drop; Retailers Cut Figures.

New York, Special.—The effects of the anti-meat campaign are still strongly reflected in local markets. Retailers are cutting prices on all kinds of provisions.

Sales Off in Baltimore; Meat Declines 25 Cents.

Baltimore, Special.—For the first time since the meat boycott started here the beef market showed a weak tendency, declining about 25 cents a hundred pounds. Pork sold for \$2 less than at this time last week. Many large dealers report that sales have fallen off 25 per cent.

Meat, Butter and Eggs Have Reduced in Rochester.

Rochester, N. Y., Special.—Wholesale meat dealers here have reduced prices 20 per cent. Butter has been reduced 1 to 2 cents per pound and eggs have dropped in price.

Will Turn Light on High Cost of Food.

Washington, Special.—Unless plans fail a congressional investigation of the causes for the increased cost of living will be made, despite the opposition.

No Boycott in Lynchburg.

Lynchburg, Special.—Although the widespread agitation against high prices of foodstuffs is apparently effective elsewhere, local dealers and brokers report no change in quotations to them. There has been no effort here to boycott meats, and the sales are up to the usual.

Meat Boycott Indorsed.

Norfolk, Special.—At a meeting held last Friday the civic department of the Woman's Club of Norfolk indorsed the present boycott on meats, and pledged its moral support in increasing the number of those who sign pledges to abstain from it for sixty days.

Jackson Smith Dead.

Knoxville, Tenn., Special.—Jackson Smith, a native of South Carolina, but of recent years a citizen of this city, died at Portland, Oregon, last week. He was a well known railroad man. He was formerly a member of the Panama canal commission.

Want Tax Repealed.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Declaring the tax 10 cents per pound on oleomargarine to be largely responsible for the increased cost of living, the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce health committee have adopted a resolution memorializing Congress to repeal the tax. The resolution sets forth that the tax is "class legislation, which deprives the Federal Government of \$2,000,000 revenue, while it shuts out of the market a wholesome product

THE WORST IS OVER

Great Danger From Waters in Paris is Passed.

EXPLANATION OF THE FLOODS

Little Fear of Predicted Disaster to the Great City—Conditions Are Improving Everywhere.

Paris, By Cable.—Slowly, very slowly, the swollen waters of the Seine, which reached the high mark at 2 o'clock last Saturday morning, are subsiding and at midnight the fall measured about four and a half inches.

The danger of some great calamity, such as has been predicted now seems over, although the situation continues to be critical at many points within the city.

The effect of the removal of the water pressure has been to weaken foundations generally and this causes the greatest anxiety.

It is generally believed that the breaking of the dam at Gonnevilliers appreciably hastened the climax by releasing an immense amount of water, but the consequences below are appalling. Gonnevilliers and Colombes, having 30,000 inhabitants, are completely submerged, the water reached the tops of the houses in the lower sections while the flood is backing up into the very center of Asnieres.

Certainly 40,000 have been driven from their homes by the flood in the valley of the Seine to the hospitals and other buildings which have been placed at the disposition of the refugees.

The local government authorities are displaying great devotion and zeal in the work of salvage and rescue. Nevertheless the conditions, especially in the country districts, are pitiful. The houses of farmers are submerged to their roofs, and in many cases the inhabitants have lost everything including their live stock.

A number of deplorable incidents have been reported. Several shopkeepers, who attempted to charge quadruple prices have been mobbed, while a grocery who was driven to the upper story of his house by an angry crowd fired a revolver, wounding a woman. Rowdies have attempted to pillage many of the houses and at several of the towns they have been driven off by the military.

The explanations of the floods given by French scientists are of especial interest. Etienne Stanislas Monnier, the eminent geologist, considers the phenomenon to be more of a geological than a meteorological nature. After explaining the action and reaction of the water in the strata below the surface, he declares that the soil of the entire basin of the Seine and the other big rivers of France had become imperceptibly filled to the point of complete saturation during the preceding three months of gentle rains with moderate temperatures which retarded evaporation. When the heavy rains came last week the ground was supersaturated and the water ran off as if from a cement floor.

Busy Week Anticipated.

Washington, Special.—Committees of both branches of Congress anticipate a busy week. Several important hearings will be continued in the House. They include that in relation to the postoffice deficit, interstate commerce bills, including the administration bill, which, by the way, will receive attention by the Senate committee as well; charges of extravagance made by Representative Hitchcock of Nebraska, against Secretary Ballinger, as well as the joint hearing in relation to the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy.

House to House Canvass.

Washington, Special.—Acting for some unknown person or persons a number of agents began a house to house canvass in this city seeking subscriptions to a monster petition to be presented to President Taft for the pardon of Banker Morse, who has begun to serve a 15-year sentence in the Atlanta penitentiary.

Investigating Pellegra.

Washington, Special.—J. D. Long, passed Assistant Surgeon in the public health service, has been directed to proceed to Columbia, S. C., and other places in that vicinity for the purpose of continuing the investigation into the cause, nature and method of transmission of pellagra.

Killed in Wreck.

London, By Cable.—As a result of two third-class cars and a Pullman crashing into the station at Stroal's Nest, eight were killed and 30 injured last Saturday. The train was running 40 miles an hour when the accident happened.

Killed About Suit of Clothes.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—C. C. Armstrong, an operative at the Olympia cotton mills, was killed by Aaron Howell in a quarrel over a debt on a suit of clothes. The deceased had once been tried for his life at Newberry, S. C., and acquitted.

A Bengal policeman who had unearthed a bomb conspiracy was shot dead in Calcutta court in revenge.

FLOODS IN EUROPE

In Past Centuries.

1161—Thousands drowned in Sicily.
1173—Zuyder Zee enlarged by floods.
1219—Norland, Norway, lake burst, 36,000 perished.
1228—Friesland, 100,000 drowned by sea.
1446—Holland, seventy-two villages inundated, 100,000 drowned.
1483—The "great waters" caused by the overflow of the Severn.
1521—Holland, 100,000 lives lost.
1530—Holland, dikes break, 400,000 drown.
1570—Holland, 20,000 people perish in Friesland.
1616—Greatest flood ever recorded in Paris.
1646—Holland, 110,000 perish.
1802—Great floods in Paris.
1813—Austria-Hungary and Poland, 10,000 perish.
1825—Jutland made an island by inundation of sea.
1840—France, overflow of Saone and Rhone swept away many villages.
1846—Disastrous inundation in the centre, west and southwest of France.
1852—Floods in Europe from Belgium to Switzerland.
1856—South of France, damage \$25,000,000.
1860—Great floods in France.
1875—Large part of Toulouse destroyed by the rising of the Garonne, 1,000 lives lost.
1876—Great floods in France and Holland.
1910—Second greatest flood in Paris; other inundations in the south of Europe.

GEN. WM. F. DRAPER DEAD.

Former Ambassador to Italy and a War Veteran Passes Away.

Washington, D. C., Special.—Gen. Wm. F. Draper, former ambassador to Italy, died at his home here after a prolonged illness, aged 68 years.

Brig. Gen. Draper was born in Lowell, Mass., April 9, 1842, the son of George and Hannah Thwing Draper. He served in the Union army from 1861 to 1864, holding commissions from second lieutenant to lieutenant colonel, commanding, and also colonel and brigadier general by brevet. He was twice wounded.

In 188 he was a Presidential elector, and he served as a Republican member in the 53rd and 55th Congresses, declining a third nomination. In 1897 he was appointed ambassador to Italy, holding that post until 1900.

He served as commander of the Loyal Legion of Massachusetts, was a member of the Army and Navy Club of Washington, the Algonquin Club of Boston, the Caia Club of Rome and others. Much of his life he lived in Massachusetts, of late years dividing his time between Washington and Hopedale, Mass.

"DRY" HEADQUARTERS.

Prohibitionists Will Put Out a Presidential Ticket.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—We have decided to make Atlanta the headquarters for the prohibition movement in the Southern States.

"Every State but Mississippi is in line, and we mean to fight to win."

"We are going to put a ticket in the field in Georgia as well as the other States for the next election. We are going to direct the campaign from Atlanta and in 1912 we are going to bring the National Prohibition convention here."

The above statements were given out following a conference of national and State prohibition leaders. Among those present were: Eugene Chafin, late prohibition presidential candidate, and Chairman R. Jones of Chicago, national chairman.

Bishop Cyrus D. Foss Dead.

Philadelphia, Special.—Bishop Cyrus D. Foss, retired of the M. E. church, one of the best known clergymen, is dead.

Minimum Rate is Given.

Washington, Special.—The president has issued a proclamation declaring that inasmuch as Denmark, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Egypt, Persia and Portugal do not unduly discriminate in their tariff against goods imported from the United States, those countries are entitled to the minimum rate established by the Payne-Aldrich act.

Acquit Members of Court.

Managua, Nicaragua, By Cable.—The court at Mesaya has acquitted General Medina, Prosecuting Attorney Salomon Selva and other members of the court-martial, of responsibility for the illegal conviction and execution of the Americans, Groce and Cannon.

Cake Cause of a Killing.

Florence, S. C., Special.—In a quarrel over the price of a cake sold at auction at a school festival near here Lofton Poston was fatally stabbed by Moses Bazen and died five minutes later.

80,000 Armenians Facing Starvation.

New York, Special.—Eighty thousand Armenian Christians are facing starvation in Cilicia, according to an appeal just issued by Bishop David H. Greer, in behalf of the Armenian Relief association.

Killed While Praying.

Iowa City, La., Special.—While on his knees praying a lamp exploded setting fire to the clothing of Peter Rogers and burning him to death.

INSURANCE FRAUDS

Agents Arrested in Louisville, Ky., for Swindling.

LARGE NUMBER ARE INVOLVED

Physicians Said to Have Filled Out Certificates Without Seeing Persons Named in Them.

Louisville, Ky., Special.—John J. Keane, P. J. Needham and T. T. O'Leary, agents for a number of insurance companies in Indiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, and other States have been arrested charging them with committing fraud. The warrants were issued by S. C. Renecke, secretary of the Indiana Insurance company.

While the amount involved is not stated, it is said to reach \$200,000 in policies alleged to have been written on the lives of persons virtually certain to die within a few months. The fraud consisted in the impersonation of sick and incurable persons by healthy ones employed for the purpose.

It is said that the affair involves in one way or another more than 56 persons and relates to fraudulently obtaining life insurance policies to the value of \$100,000.

It is also said that many persons are involved in the affair. One physician has, it is said, admitted that he acted as a participant in a conspiracy by filling out medical certificates asserting that men and women he had never seen were in good health and constituted good insurance risks. In many cases, however, it is believed the physicians were imposed upon.

The case was taken up upon the life insurance companies of Indiana and Tennessee who are said to be large losers by reason of "graveyard" swindlers. These companies which it is alleged have already paid \$10,000 on policy issued in the Rider case are excluded from business in this State, yet it is said, have been doing business in Indiana. The scheme is to a certain extent an old one. Merely choosing a man of athletic build for examination, substituting the medical report of that of a person of short life expectancy.

Rider it is learned, carried on his life aggregating \$16,000, but none of his relatives is named as beneficiary. Mrs. Mary Quill, a sister and Lewis Rider, a brother, made affidavits several days ago that they believed their brother came to his death by poisoning and that he was a victim of foul play. The family communicated with a life insurance company in Tennessee and the matter was taken up in Louisville, by a representative of that company and three Indiana companies. Upon these representations Acting Governor Dascher ordered the body examined. After discovering the lesion in the lung, the stomach was removed and turned over to chemists for analysis. When Keane, Needham and O'Leary were arraigned in police court their bail was reduced to \$5,000 each on motion of their attorneys. The case was then postponed until February 3.

Board of Trade Adjourns.

Washington, Special.—The national board of trade has ended its fortieth annual convention here. Resolutions were adopted endorsing radical amendments in the Sherman anti-trust law, opposing Federal inspection of grain, favoring eliminating the educational test from the immigration law and favoring an international court of arbitration.

Alleged Wreckers Held.

Lynchburg, Special.—Robert Mason and Albert Lindsay, both white, were arrested here last Wednesday, charged with placing iron rails on the Southern railway 40 miles below Lynchburg last Friday, when north-bound train No. 36 ran into them, the engine being damaged but not derailed. Two other white men have been implicated and are under arrest at Reidsville, N. C.

Working For New State.

Medford, Ore., Special.—Agitation for the creation of a proposed new state to be called Siskiyou, out of northern California and northern Oregon, has reached such a stage that a convention has been called to meet at Medford, Ore., March 15th.

Employee Will Be Held Responsible.

Washington, Special.—The railroad of the country is so notified by the Interstate Commerce Commission that the employee of a railroad who will be held responsible for the loss of a package or other property entrusted to him.

Label Suit Prepped.

New York, Special.—The Federal government's prosecution of the publishers of the New York World was stopped by the Federal court, Judge Hough in the United States Circuit Court quashing the indictment against the Press Publishing Company, publishers of The World, for alleged libel in connection with the publications concerning the Panama canal purchase. Lack of jurisdiction and other reasons are given.